



The H.O.G. Tells

ELECTRIC CITY CHAPTER #4769

Web Address: www.electriccityhog.com

JAN / FEB 2018

Sponsored By: Timms Harley Davidson of Anderson
Rocky Timms - Owner
4110 Clemson Blvd
Anderson, SC 29621
Phone: 864-224-1531, Toll Free: 877-224-1531
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***Another great article to
share..just not mine***

BY TIM JONES
DIRECTOR

Occasionally I have time to read and enjoy something besides plats and contracts. I look for interesting articles that involve improving the way I ride, as well as helping our Chapter members who may be interested in doing so, as well. I love me, and a whole lot of others that I like hanging around for.

Our Assistant Director Tim Hill has donated his time on a few outings already setting up cones and a course so our members can practice ride on it at a local school parking lot. Tim's love for motor cop course challenges gives us the opportunity to "play" some. The weaves, turns and tips he offers in the parking lot course are a great help for improving (or learning) maneuvers that can

save you heartache sometimes.

As discussed at the Feb. meeting, Tim mentioned possibly setting up the course once more. If you have not come out for one, get in on the next one if you can. Come watch, or better yet, give it a try. I encourage you to take advantage of what being an EC HOG has to offer. (and don't go running off to Dallas!)

This leads me to the meat of "my" article. Now I'm not too proud to say, I found a very well written article that relates in few ways we can improve our riding and why.

I could probably write something cool reminiscing about the good times past or those ahead, but ...you are spared this time!

Ken Ridout, with Dallas HOG chapter 1869 wrote a guest article in their Feb. 2018 Newsletter that I hope you find interesting and answers a lot of the questions as to "why" do we go to the parking lots?

Keep in mind toward the end of the article, we may not be near Dallas, but we do face the everyday challenges on the road (and pulling in to all those restaurant parking lots as well) of having to watch out for those who don't watch out for us!

I hope this encourages you to always strive to ride better, and if it saves your life (or mine), I'm good with that.

Hope you enjoy !!

Why Practice In Parking Lots?

by Ken Ridout

If the reason for practicing in parking lots was simply to be able to make u-turns or maneuver around pedestrians in a parking lot, power-walking our motorcycles (more commonly known as "duckwalking") would suffice. But the reasons for parking lot practice are far more important than just getting to a gas pump or maneuvering through people and obstacles at a rally. I've seen recent comments on Facebook from riders that say, "I need to improve my slow speed skills." Well, maybe they do. Maybe we all do. But that's actually not the purpose of motorcycle practice in a parking lot.

How so? Well, think about this:

It is impossible to safely practice swerving, pothole or road obstacle avoidance, control in adverse situations, or even quick-stopping while riding on the road. For instance, how do you practice avoiding a log or pothole that appears from under the car you're following at 40 mph? How do you practice emergency stops? How do you practice braking then swerving to avoid another vehicle that has violated your right of way? How do you arrest an incipient fall? When those things happen, should we hope we can deal with them the best we can? If so, we can always blame the other guy or the pothole in the road for our inability to avoid bad situations and risk of injury. If we react improperly and lose control, we can always claim that we "had to lay it down".

If we're really lucky enough, bad situations will never happen to us. We can ride on, accumulating years of experience, enforcing bad habits, and never worry about a Skills Gap. But, do we really want to rely on luck?

Skills Gap Definition: "The skills you have compared to the skills you may need."

Experience isn't enough when piloting a motorcycle. Being careful isn't enough, either. People make mistakes, sometimes at our expense. And now with distracted driving around us, mistakes are more much common. Our only means of protecting ourselves from calamity on the streets, roads, and highways are the tried and proven skills we

learn and practice. We need skills that take over instantly and without thought in an emergency. We don't want the bad habits we may have developed to take over. So, we practice. –

- We practice riding slowly and maneuvering without putting feet on the pavement. Why? Because we know that planting a foot when we feel unbalanced and out of control is a natural reaction and that planting a foot on the pavement at anything more than about 2 mph risks a broken tibia. It has also proven that planting a foot on the pavement can cause the saddlebag or rear crash bars to break one's lower leg bones. History has proven time and time again that planting a foot at 40 mph will almost certainly break lower leg bones and ankle joints. Yes, unskilled people do that! Heck, we ride 800 to 1000-pound machines that are easily heavy enough to snap a bone if our motor falls on our leg. I've taught several Motorcycle Safety Foundation classes, both beginner and experienced, where a student has exited the class with broken bones. The rider that trains his/her body to rely on feet on the pavement to stay upright will plant a foot in an emergency.

- We practice stopping to a complete stop using both brakes, refraining from duck-walking the last few feet while one or two fingers squeeze the brake lever. Why? Because we need braking skills and want to train our bodies to keep both feet on the floorboards any time we're in motion, even at only a couple of miles per hour.

- We practice stopping from 10, 20, and even 30 mph in parking lots using both brakes to the threshold of traction. Why? Because we've all learned that 70% of our braking power is achieved by proper utilization of the front brake. Stomping on the rear brake may slow us down but will usually cause total loss of control. Combination threshold braking is the only way to stop quickly when things in front of us go bad. Efficient emergency stopping should be as natural to us as squeezing the clutch shifting gears. It only becomes that natural with practice.

- We practice rear brake only when we're at slow speeds and our steering is not squared. Why? Because we know that squeezing the front brake at slow speed while the steering is turned will take the motorcycle to the ground and riders risk injury.

- We practice dipping in the 18' and 12' Cone weaves. Why? because if you cannot dip the motorcycle, you cannot make quick turns or swerves. Also, if you do dip the motorcycle, can you bring it back up with the clutch and throttle? We learn to confidently dip and recover over and over.

- We practice left and right U-turns. Why? Because they bond the motorcyclist to the motorcycle so that emergency actions will come naturally and can be accomplished without thought. I've taught Experienced Rider MSF classes where rider(s) could not execute a 90-degree right turn. Instead when riding on the streets, they've avoided right turns wherever possible; lest they accidentally cross into oncoming traffic lanes trying. U-turn practice gets the rider comfortable abrupt maneuvering when needed on the streets or at gas stations.

- We practice proper clutch/throttle/brake. Why? because their proper and coordinated use are what keep us upright and prevent injury.

- We practice coming to a stop behind a virtual car and practice effective escape planning to avoid being the recipient of a rear-end collision. Why? Because we want to be aware of our surroundings, have a plan of escape even before stopped. We want to be able to execute that plan should it be needed without having to think first.

- We practice looking where we want the motorcycle to go. On the road, the exact same discipline is required at all speeds; else, the motorcyclist stands a good chance of going straight while the road is curving.

That, my fellow motorcyclists, is why we practice at slow speeds . . . and yes, in parking lots. There is no other way to practice the necessary skills. We don't get better with experience. We only get better with practice under skilled coaching and then using the practiced skills on every ride.

Statistics show that motorcycle police officers are only involved in 10% of the accidents as we civilians, even though they ride many more hours on city streets in all conditions. To me, that is enough proof that as a group, we have a lack of proper training and practice. When something bad happens in front of us, we're 9-times more likely to react with panic than the police officer that automatically compensates with skillful riding without any thought. The only difference is that they're forced to train and practice or be kicked off the squad. Peer pressure within their ranks also plays a part in their motivation.

We are lucky in the Dallas/ Ft. Worth area. This has become the center of the universe for riders to practice skills. It is so popular that people have relocated to our area or visit us as often as they can; just to be around skillful riders, to practice, and to learn.

Not only are there at least a dozen MSF and other sponsored classes every week in our area, but there are also

private companies that hold classes so that we riders can learn how to be more skillful. And on top of that, there are at least THREE free informal skills practice sessions every week in our part of the city . . . the closest one happens every Monday evening in the parking lot right next to our own dealership!

Why do we offer our local practice sessions on Monday evenings? Because we want to raise the awareness of skillful riding and watch as our friends gain skills that will help keep them safe. Also because it's fun. I've been known to say many times, "It's on a motorcycle, how can it not be fun!". Many of our chapter members attend every Monday evening, knowing that they're better/safer riders and because we enjoy riding with like-minded riders. Just ask them what they think.

Afterwards, we go to Jimmy's Big Burgers for dinner and friendship where we mainly talk about motorcycling. Jimmy's Big Burgers is a supporter of skilled riding and donated \$300 to the North Texas Motorcycle Challenge benefitting Motorcops for Kids. Their entire donation effectively went to Motorcops for Kids and we thank them for that. I invite you to join us on Monday evenings to lessen your skills gap, ride more confidently on the streets, and visit with us at Jimmy's afterwards.

Ken Ridout

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 I hope you enjoyed reading this article from Ken Ridout. I sure did enjoy Cookeville and look forward to Maryville this coming May. Hope to be there to watch this year, I know Tim H and a couple more of our members maybe will be showing what they got. Let's go support them. Whether I see you out on the course or in the streets...live to ride....ride to live....Tim J



Riding with the Head Road Captain

From the Chapter Safety Officer/Head Road Captain.

We're only a few weeks from the beginning of spring, and you know what that means; riding season in the southeast when folks with 5 year old motorcycles with 2000 miles on them roll those bikes out, dust them off and go for a ride for about an hour. But we know that isn't us. We ride year round. However, it is nice to be able to ride with a light jacket or just a sweatshirt as opposed to bundling up like the Michelin man and doing our best not to freeze.

Ok. Enough of that. It is also a good time to give your bike a good once over. Take a good look at the tires and check the pressure. Your tires will lose 5 to 10 pounds of air pressure during the cooler weather so make sure to inflate them back to the recommended levels. Always use the levels published by the bike manufacturer not any that may be engraved on the tire. The same is true for your other vehicles. You can find this information on the sticker or plaque on the inside of the door jam. Of course you'll have to check the owners manual for the pressure recommendations for your motorcycle. And, be aware, the front and rear pressures are usually not the same. Also, take a look at your brakes and see if the pads are getting thin. You may even want to get some wrenches and snug up some nuts and bolts. Be sure to check the bolt on the kick stand. If it is loose the stand can flip forward causing the bike to fall when you lean it over to get off. Make sure all of your lights are working properly too. Check the horn, the fluid levels, roll the bike backward and forward with the motor shut off and listen for unusual noises.

The guys at Timms Harley Davidson will be happy to help with any issues you may discover or you can just take it in to them and ask them the check it out for you.

The main thing is that a well maintained bike is a safe bike so don't take any unnecessary chances.

I also want to say a big thanks to our road captains for all that they do. The responses so far this year have been excellent. We have 16 road captains and it's great when we get so many willing to lead so I can let the guys who lead month after month have a little break. I do sincerely appreciate all of you and know that not everyone can take

a ride every month. Again, Thank You.
Ride safe and have fun and I'll see you on the road.
Ken



ELECTRIC CITY HARLEY OWNERS GROUP #4769
Minutes of the January 2, 2018 Chapter Meeting

Meeting called to order by Tim Jones at 7:04 PM

Opening prayer was given by JB Clifton

Pledge of Allegiance was led by JB Clifton

Roll Call (JB Clifton) Member Enrollment 131, Members Present 47, Guests 4

Approval of Secretary's Minutes as published in Newsletter No additions or corrections

Officers Reports

Tim Jones (Director)

- **Welcome** – Tim welcomed everyone to the January meeting.
- **Re-Joining Members** – 47 members re-joined tonight. Tim thanked all who re-joined. Reminded everyone to re-join by next meeting.
- **January Birthdays** – Acknowledged members who have a birthday this month by singing Happy Birthday.
- **Welcome New Primary Officers and Activities Group** – New officers Robin Perry (Secretary) and Beverly Munns as LOH, Join Pam Waitekus (Treasurer), Tim Jones (Director) and Tim Hill (Assistant Director) as primary officers. Cheryl and Jay Sanders will be joining John and Beverly Munns on our activities committee. Other returning officers include, Ken Higginbotham (Safety and Head Road Captain), J.B. Clifton (Membership), Lyn Guffee (Webmaster), Luanne Jones (Historian), George Turner (Chaplain) and Joe Kinsland (Volunteer Coordinator). Tim recognized Gary Clemmons (Past Secretary) and Melissa Clemmons (Past LOH) and thanked them for their service.
- **Christmas Party** – Everyone has a great time at the 2017 Christmas Party. We will be returning to Tuckers D for next year's party. Brandon Higginbotham has been approached to entertain us once again.
- **WholeHOG Chili Cook-off** – Scheduled for Saturday, January 27th at 1:00 p.m. at Timms Harley Davidson in Anderson. There will be a \$5.00 tasting fee. Plan to arrive at noon and the tasting will start at 1:00pm. We are working on judges for this event. (Will be rescheduled)
- **Bike Blessing-** Steve Beckley contacted Tim Jones about doing a bike blessing. There is interest. Plan on doing in Feb. or March.
- **Volunteer Dinner-** Held at Timms Harley Davidson on Jan.18th 2018 at 7 pm
- **Joe Lemmons from Life Flight here with us tonight.**
- **Tim Hill (Assistant Director)**
- **Welcome of New Members –Tom Hennessey from NJ**

Pam Waitekus (Treasurer's Report)

- **Financial Report** – On vacation in New York
- **John Munns (Activities Committee)- Looking for suggestions**
- **Ride Suggestion Sheets** – Please turn in ride suggestion sheets. Please put your name on suggestions so committee can ask any questions they may have about destination.
- **Calendar** – Check the ECHOG calendar for other events

Beverly Munns (LOH Report)

- **LOH Meeting** –Meetings are held 3rd Tuesday of each month at Sue's Wings & Things (eat at 6:00 and meeting begins at 7:00).
- **Bowling** – Meet on 2nd Monday of each month at Boulevard Lanes at 7:00 p.m.
- **Senior Follies-** March 18th. \$15 per person.

Other Business and Drawings

Ken Higginbotham (Head Road Captain & Safety Officer)

- **Road Captains** – Nothing to share....WHAT ??? Mark Miller is coming on board joining our Road Captains.
- **Drawings**
- **Chapter Pride: Ken Higginbotham – had nothing with the Chapter on it, money back in the pot !**
- **Winner of \$25.00 gift card donated by Timms HD:** Steve McCullough
- **Door Prize Winners of \$20.00 gift cards:** Tami Looper, Robert Redman
- **50/50 Winner of \$65.00:** Ray Keiper

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by Robin Perry, Secretary

Minutes taken by Luanne Jones in Robin Perry's absence.



ELECTRIC CITY HARLEY OWNERS GROUP #4769 Minutes of the February 6, 2018 Chapter Meeting

Meeting called to order by Tim Jones at 7:03 PM

Opening prayer was given by Allison Helvey

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rod Ensley

Roll Call (JB Clifton) Members Present 51, 3 New Members

Approval of Secretary's Minutes as published in Newsletter No additions or corrections

Officers Reports

Tim Jones (Director)

- **Welcome** – Tim welcomed everyone to the January meeting.
- **Re-Joining Members** – 51 members re-joined tonight. 3 New Members. Tim thanked all who re-joined. Reminded everyone to re-join by next meeting.
- **February Birthdays** – Acknowledged members who have a birthday this month by singing Happy Birthday.
- **Welcome New Primary Officers and Activities Group** – New officers Robin Perry (Secretary) and Beverly Munns as LOH, Join Pam Waitekus (Treasurer), Tim Jones (Director) and Tim Hill (Assistant Director) as primary officers. Cheryl and Jay Sanders will be joining John and Beverly Munns on our activities committee. Other returning officers include, Ken Higginbotham (Safety and Head Road Captain), J.B. Clifton (Membership), Ray Keiper (Webmaster), Luanne Jones (Historian), Allison Helvey (Chaplain) and Joe Kinsland (Volunteer Coordinator). Tim recognized Gary Clemmons (Past Secretary) and Melissa Clemmons (Past LOH) and thanked them for their service.
- **New Chaplin- Welcome Allison Helvey. Allison spoke and said if anyone needs her please let her know.**
- **Bike Blessing-** Saturday February 17th from 9 to 11 at Timms. Pancakes and techtalk will be going on as well.
- **March meeting kicks off the Mileage Challenge.** See Robin in Service at Timms to register for HOG miles challenge AND the EC HOG mileage challenge while you are there.
- **Tim Hill (Assistant Director)**

Welcome of New Members – Terri Freed, Brad & Margaret Tucker.

Welcome to ECHOG !!

- **Pam Waitekus (Treasurer's Report)**
- **Financial Report** – Read report from January. If you want a name tag please let Pam know, she needs 12 people to order to get them.
- **John Munns (Activities Committee)-** Passed around sheet for the sweetheart ride at Carsons. Ask if there was any interest in going to Nashville. Feb. & March rides are on the calendar on our website..
- **Ride Suggestion Sheets** – Please turn in ride suggestion sheets. Please put your name on suggestions so committee can ask any questions they may have about destination.

- **Calendar** – Check the ECHOG calendar for other events

Ken Higginbotham (Safety) (Head Road Captain & Safety Officer)

- Talked about bike maintenance. Please always check your tire pressure.

Beverly Munns (LOH Report)

- **LOH Meeting** –Meetings are held 3rd Tuesday of each month at Sue's Wings & Things (eat at 6:00 and meeting begins at 7:00).
- **Bowling** – Meet on 2nd Monday of each month at Boulevard Lanes at 7:00 p.m.
- Thank you for a full meeting at Sue's in January. Almost 40 people were there.
- Senior Follies- March 18th. \$15 per person. We will meet at Logans Roadhouse at Noon then all go together to Senior Follies.
- April 22nd- Ladies only ride to The Grey House in Starr. Meet at Timms at 12:30. 2, 3, and 4 wheels welcome.
- We are planning a Blood drive for May5th at Timms. More information to come.

Ashley and Heidi from Timms joined us to talk about: On April 14th, Timms is sponsoring a Poker Run (this is on our calendar), the run is to help get protective vest for 1st responders. There will be 4 stops on the run. First bikes out at 10 and last bike out at noon. Be back at Timms at 3pm.

Joe Kinsland- Volunteer Coordinator

- This year there will only be 1 bike night a month.
- The first Thursday of each month starting in March, going through November.
- Please sign up! Only 2 shifts per gate.
- THIS IS A GREAT WAY FOR US TO SUPPORT OUR DEALERSHIP WHO ALWAYS SUPPORTS US!!

Other Business and Drawings

- **Drawings**
- **Chapter Pride: Steve Sutherland** – not in attendance
- **Winner of \$25.00 gift card donated by Timms HD:** Mark Miller
- **Door Prize Winners** of \$20.00 gift cards: Cheryl Sanders & Denise Higginbotham
- **50/50 Winner of \$80.00:** Fish Guffee
- **HOG coolers:** Michelle Chapman

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by Robin Perry, Secretary

Minutes taken Robin Perry



Historian

Luanne Jones (Historian) – Please check out our dedicated Facebook site for albums/pictures and details of our rides at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1058735334162011/>

FYI- The HOG photo albums at the dealership have been put in storage due to remodeling that has taken place at the dealer.

Our Facebook site is being used to share our most recent past events.

Road Captains, Please send ride sheets to Robin Perry with your sign in sheets and she will forward ride sheets, for your convenience, to Luanne Jones

Having occasional starting problems with your bike, change the battery in the key fob every yr.

Below is a list of the Road Captains and their cell number that we have in the ECHOG Chapter. This list would be good to keep with you when we are on a ride. Contact the Road Captain if you get separated from the group or you are having trouble.

- **CHECK CALENDAR FOR FUTURE RIDES AND EVENTS**

Have you signed up for the ECHOG Update/Reminder? Check with Tim Hill for more info.

LET'S MAKE OUR NEW MEMBERS FEEL WELCOME.

Chapter Officers

Director	Tim Jones	
Asst. Dir.	Tim Hill	
Secretary	Robin Perry	
Treasurer	Pam Waitekus	(864)348-7204
LOH Officer	Beverly Munns	
Newsletter Editor	Ray Keiper	(864)225-2671
Webmaster	Lyn Guffee	(864)261-8442
Head Road Captain	Ken Higginbotham	
Safety Officer	Ken Higginbotham	
Membership Activities	JB Clifton	(864)225-2934
	John & Bev Munns	
	Jay and Cheryl Sanders	
Chaplain	Allyson Helvie	
Historian	Luanne Jones	
Photographer	Tim Jones	
Volunteer Coord.	Joe Kinsland	

Home

Cell

(803) 463-9758
 (864) 554-0120
 (864) 737-8362
 (518) 281-8763
 (864) 622-9585
 (864) 353-8993
 (864) 934-0403
 (864) 313-5178
 (864) 313-5178
 (864) 314-1221
 (864) 483-4294
 (864) 221-0416
 (864) 245-3709
 (864) 202-0991
 (864) 463-9758
 (864) 423-8688

H.O.G. Meeting

1st Tuesday of every month
 Fuddruckers
 100 Destination Blvd
 Anderson, SC 29621
 Eat: 6:00 PM Meeting: 7:00 PM

L.O.H. Meeting

3rd Tuesday of every month
 Sues Wings & Things
 SC 81 & I-85 Exit 27
 Eat: 6:00 PM Meeting: 7:00 PM

ELECTRIC CITY HOG ROAD CAPTAINS 2018

GARY	CLEMONS	864 238-0626
TIM	HILL	864-554-0121
FISH	GUFFEE	864-844-4174
KEN	HIGGINBOTHAM	864-313-5178
TIM	JONES	803-463-9758
RAY	KEIPER	864-353-8993
JOE	KINSLAND	864-423-8688
STEVE	McCULLOUGH	864-224-8479
JOHN	MUNNS	864-483-4294
MARK	MILLER	864-303-8071
GEORGE	TURNER	864-642-5639
JOHN	WAITEKUS	518-281-8763
DALE	PERRY	864-356-4688
	And our Lady Road Captains	
MELISSA	CLEMONS	864-340-2265
TAMI	MEALOR	864-979-8944
CHERYL	SANDERS	864-221-0416
BRENDA	HILL	864-554-0120



Pinot joined in at the City Scape Winery --- Right at home with the HOGS that rode in for the wine tasting.



Good dinner at Westgate on the 2/18/18 ride.

